## NEWS RELEASE

## Hon. Robert T. Matsui

## Member of Congress

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## MATSUI ANNOUNCES HOUSE APPROVES \$35 MILLION FOR SACRAMENTO HIGHWAY, TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Robert T. Matsui announced today the House of Representatives approved \$35 million in federal funding over the next six years for local highway and transportation projects. These projects will benefit Sacramento by creating jobs, boosting economic development and revitalization, and improving road and highway conditions.

"This investment in highways and mass transit will help address Sacramento's continued growth in a responsible manner," Matsui said. "While the overall funding level of the House bill is less than Democrats had worked for, this funding will bring much needed jobs and highway and transportation improvements to Sacramento. This will provide a true economic stimulus by putting money in the pockets of those American families who need it most."

Five highway and transit projects will receive immediate funding. Two other major light rail transit projects also received a special Congressional designation as federal funding priorities. While the specified amounts were not listed, the South Line Extension from Meadowview Road to Cosumnes River College and Calvine/Auberry Roads, and the Downtown Natomas Airport line are now approved to receive continued federal assistance for development and construction.

"75% of Sacramento freeways lanes are congested, and 72% of California's major roads are rated in poor or mediocre condition," Matsui said. "Repairing roads, investing in traffic infrastructure and expanding public transit will help alleviate traffic problems and improve quality of life for Sacramento residents."

Projects approved to receive funding include:

- \$5 million to advance development of the Intermodal station by constructing improved bus facilities and trackside passenger facilities, and for more efficient access to the station for light rail, taxis and automobiles.
- \$8 million for initial improvements along Folsom Boulevard between Rod Beaudry Drive and Sunrise Boulevard, such as installing sidewalks and street lighting to provide for public safety.
- \$10 million for the North Central Business District to widen 7<sup>th</sup> Street, extend 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and improve and reconstruct the Richards Boulevard / I-5 Interchange.
- \$9 million to widen Folsom Road between 65<sup>th</sup> and Power Inn.
- \$3 million for improvements along Watt Avenue.

The funding was included in a comprehensive transportation bill, H.R. 3550, the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, which the House of Representatives approved today. The legislation must now be reconciled with the Senate-passed version of the bill and be signed by the President.